SUMMARY OF PRPOSED AMENDMENTS AND NEW REGULATIONS OF THE ARKANSAS BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS

Arkansas Department of Labor
#010.13

November 20, 2007

Rule 010.13-001 through -007. These new rules are basically an adoption of the Model Rules recommended by the Office of Attorney General. They provide procedures for rule-making, adjudicative hearings, general licensing requirements, and general public information regarding the organization of the agency and the authority of the board.

Rule 010.13-008.   This rule updates the Board's standards for the performance of electrical work from the 2005 National Electrical Code to the 2008 National Electrical Code. The rule also incorporates by reference the ANSI Code for Standard Practices for Good Workmanship.

Rule 010.13-009. This rule contains definitions of words used in the statutes or regulations. There is a new definition for "direct supervision" which is the type of supervision that must be provided to an apprentice prior to the 4th year of apprenticeship. There is also a revision of the definition of "journeyman electrician" in order to clarify the distinction with a master electrician.

Rule 010.13-010 deals with construction and exemptions and contains no new or amendatory language which is not statutory.

Rule 010.13-011 deals with examinations. New language provides that an applicant that is approved by the Board for examination is approved for subsequent examinations of the same class without further action by the Board, provided the applicant completed an apprenticeship program.

Rule 010.13-012 establishes qualifications for licensure. It amends the current qualifications only for journeymen electricians. The requirements for those applicants who have completed apprenticeship school or are seeking reciprocity remain the same. Other applicants would have to have 8 years (16,000) hours of electrical construction experience or training. Current requirements are: 1) 4 years (8,000) hours of electrical construction experience with 3 years (6,000 hours) of new commercial or industrial experience or 2) 6 years (10,000) hours electrical maintenance experience with 2 years (4,000 hours) in new commercial or industrial construction.

Rule 010.13-013 This rule establishes requirements and processes for obtaining, maintaining, and renewing licenses. New requirements include: licensee keeping a current address on file with the Board; posting the responsible master's license number and other information on the job site; and keeping license and photo identification immediately available at all times when performing electrical work.

This rule also amends the requirements for apprentices to conform to Act 495 of 2007.

Another new provision would require a licensed electrician to verify work hours of any apprentice in his employ for the previous 4 years.

Rule 010.13-014. This rule establishes procedures for the revocation, suspension, surrender, and denial of licenses. Most of the new language is boiler-plate from the Attorney General's Model Rules.

Rule 010.13-015 deals with civil money penalties. There are no substantive changes from current rules.

Rule 010.13-016. This rule provides the procedure for obtaining a license by reciprocity. There are no substantive changes.

Rule 010.13-017. This rule establishes procedures and requirements for handling non-licensed persons performing electrical work. A new provision is that the non-licensed person may be required to remove the electrical wiring he/she installed at his/her cost.

Rule 010.13-018 establishes the procedures for a restricted lifetime master electrician's license. There are no substantive changes.

Rule 010.13-019 establishes the procedures to meet statutory continuing education requirements. There are no substantive changes.

Rule 010.13-020. This is a new rule that addresses code enforcement issues, including exposing electrical work for inspection and repairing property damage caused by correcting electrical code violations. It also provides that disconnecting electrical equipment is not a correction.